

Secretary for Health chairs first meeting of Advisory Committee on Health and Medical Innovation Development (with photos)

The Secretary for Health, Professor Lo Chung-mau, chaired the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Health and Medical Innovation Development (Advisory Committee) today (May 16), during which members shared their valuable insights on the establishment of the Hong Kong Centre for Medical Products Regulation (CMPR) and the Real-World Study and Application Centre (RWSAC).

The Health Bureau (HHB) established the Steering Committee on Health and Medical Innovation Development (Steering Committee) last year to co-ordinate and advance the work related to health and medical innovation, with a view to taking forward the policy of developing Hong Kong into an international health and medical innovation hub as proposed in the Policy Address. The newly established Advisory Committee under the Steering Committee is responsible for providing professional advice and strategic recommendations on the related work to the Steering Committee. The Advisory Committee has received staunch support from the National Medical Products Administration, with the Director of the Department of Drug Registration, Mr Yang Ting, joining the Committee as the official representative of the national drug regulatory authority. Other members include experts from the healthcare, academic, scientific research, and industry sectors. Other members include experts from the healthcare, academic, research, and industry sectors.

The Advisory Committee held its first meeting today, where members first received a briefing on the progress of the establishment of the CMPR. The Preparatory Office for the CMPR has been taking forward various measures, including examining the need for new legislation, mapping out the strategies to reform the regulatory regime of drugs and medical devices, and advancing plans for "primary evaluation" since its establishment in June last year. The objective is to put forward the timetable for establishing the CMPR and the roadmap towards the adoption of "primary evaluation" in the first half of this year.

At the meeting, members also offered advice on the proposals for establishing the RWSAC. The RWSAC aims to enhance the access and application of health and medical databases, as well as strengthen collaboration between Hong Kong and the Mainland, particularly in integrating real-world data generated through the special measure of using Hong Kong-registered drugs and medical devices used in Hong Kong public hospitals in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, to achieve three major objectives: (1) accelerate the research and development (R&D), approval and market launch of innovative medical products; (2) leverage real-world data to support evidence-based decision-making; and (3) develop Hong Kong into a leading

region and global hub for real-world studies. The Government strives to establish the RWSAC by the end of this year.

Professor Lo said, "I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all members of the Advisory Committee for offering invaluable and professional advice on the proposals and measures for health and medical innovation development at today's meeting. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government will strenuously work in line with the national objective of further reforming the medical and healthcare system and take forward the establishment of the CMPR and the RWSAC by complementing technological innovation with institutional innovation. We will fully utilise the institutional advantages of 'one country, two systems' and Hong Kong's professional healthcare strengths to develop Hong Kong into an international health and medical innovation hub, thereby enabling patients to benefit from the most advanced diagnostic and treatment technologies and achieving the concept of bringing the benefits of good drugs and R&D to Hong Kong. At the same time, we aim to attract more local, Mainland and overseas pharmaceutical and medical device enterprises to conduct R&D and clinical trials in Hong Kong, thereby developing new quality productive forces in biomedicine and a new model for Hong Kong's health and medical innovation development, so as to make further contributions to the overall development of the nation."

The membership of the Advisory Committee is as follows:

Chairman

Secretary for Health

Representative from national drug regulatory authority

Mr Yang Ting

Non-official members

Professor Isaiah Arkin

Professor Bian Zhaoxiang

Dr Benjamin Li Xiaoyi

Professor Tony Mok Shu-kam

Professor Walter Seto Wai-kay

Professor David Shum Ho-keung

Professor Karl Tsim Wah-Keung

Mr Fred Tung

Ms Wu Shan

Official members

Permanent Secretary for Health

Deputy Secretary for Health 3

Senior Advisor (Secretary for Health's Office)

Representative from the Department of Health

Representative from the Hospital Authority

Representative from the Innovation and Technology Commission

Representative from the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation

